

High Court of Jharkhand. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Jharkhand, Secretary, Rural Development, Government of Jharkhand and the Election Commission, Government of Jharkhand are proforma Respondents in the matter. The Minister of Panchayati Raj has also written to the Chief Minister, Jharkhand for holding elections in the State at the earliest as per the Constitutional provisions of PESA. The Union of India has also requested Additional Solicitor General to make a special mention in the Supreme Court of India for an early hearing of the case. An interim Application has also been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court for an early hearing. Panchayats elections will be held in the State on the outcome of the SLP and Panchayati Raj Institutions will be placed in the State.

Child sex tourism

1320. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is fast emerging as a hub for child sex tourism;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the States where child sex tourism is rampant; and
- (d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) As per studies conducted by National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for Women, Child Sex Tourism is prevalent in India, under the cover of Pilgrim Tourism, Heritage Tourism and Coastal Tourism and is mostly found in the States of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Orissa.

(d) The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA) supplemented by the Indian Penal Code prohibits trafficking in human beings including children for purpose of prostitution and lays down severe penalties for traffickers. The ITPA is now likely to be further amended providing for more stringent punishment for trafficking in persons including children. The Ministry of Women and Child Development conducts advocacy, awareness generation, sensitization programmes for prevention of child trafficking.

The Central Advisory Committee on combating Child Prostitution headed by Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India reviews the State's activities in combating trafficking and prostitution every quarter. The Ministry of Women and Child Development also runs Swadhar Shelter Homes which provide shelter, food, clothing, emotional support, counselling, rehabilitation and other facilities to sex workers including children.

Prime Minister's Mission on Development of Women and Children

1321. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mid-term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan consists the recommendations such as Prime Minister's Mission on Development of Women and Children;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken to implement the above recommendations;
- (c) if so, whether the draft approval paper of the Eleventh Five Year Plan consists the above recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) No decision has been taken for constitution of a Prime Minister's Mission on Development of Women and Children.

Under nourishment of children

1322. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to the Integrated Child Development Services